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Message Text

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43
ACTION COME-00

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 EB-11 SY-04 CIAE-00 INR-10

NSAE-00 RSC-01 DRC-01 L-03 NEA-14 /070 W
---------- 018350
R 251200Z JUN 74
FM AMEMBASSY ATHENS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3894

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: BEXP, GR
SUBJECT: TRADE ASSISTANCE INQUIRY: MOTT HAVEN TRUCK PARTS

REF: STATE 6425

GREEK REPRESENTATIVE SUBJECT FIRM, BASIL TSAKOS, CALLED AT EMBASSY JUNE 20 AND IN RAMBLING STATEMENT, FULL OF CHARGES OF SKULDUGGERY AND SABOTAGE, MADE FOLLOWING POINTS:

1) MOTT HAVEN SIGNED CONTRACT DECEMBER 1969 TO DELIVER M-16 TANK HALF-TRACK SHOES AND OTHER TANK PARTS TO GREEK ARMY IN VALUE OF $215,718. DESPITE REPEATED EXTENSIONS L/C, MOTT HAVEN HAD BY AUGUST 1971 NOT COMPLETED DELIVERY. $19,846 IN TRACK SHOES REMAINS UNDELIVERED TO THIS DATE.

2) MOTT HAVE HAS BEEN FINED TOTAL $18,348 FOR FAILURE TO SHIP.

3) MOTT HAVEN, BECAUSE OF THIS FAILURE, WILL BE BARRED FROM FUTURE BUSINESS WITH GOG.

4) TSAKOS ALLEGES THAT GOG SEEKING BLACKLIST MOTT HAVEN AMONG ALL NATO GOVERNMENTS. (HELLENIC ARMY COMMAND HAS DENIED THIS TO JUSMAGG OFFICER INVESTIGATING CASE; STATE THEY PLAN NO FURTHER ACTION AT THIS TIME).
FYI ONLY: BASIL TSAKOS WELL KNOWN TO EMBASSY AS AGGRESSIVE FIVE PERCENTER WHO SEEKS EXPLOIT ANY RESOURCES AND TALENTS OTHER
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THAN HIS OWN. WTDR NOW UNDER PREPARATION LARGELY NEGATIVE.

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EMBASSY UNABLE ELICIT FROM TSAKOS WHETHER MOTT HAVEN HAS
VALID COUNTERCLAIMS AGAINST GOG.

ACTION REQUESTED: 1) TSAKOS CLAIMED "FORCE MAJEURE" AS DEFENSE
FOR MOTT HAVEN'S NON-DELIVERY. REQUEST COMMERCE ASCERTAIN
DIRECTLY FROM OTT HAVEN WHAT FORCE MAJEURE CONSISTED OF.

2) MOTT HAVEN TELEX 3012, SHOWN TO EMBASSY BY TSAKOS,
CONTAINS STATEMENT QUOTE WE RESPECTFULLY REQUEST MINISTRY
UNDERSTANDING OF UNFORTUNATE SERIES OF EVENTS AND ACKNOWLEDGE
THAT FAULT LIES WITH BOTH PARTIES UNQUOTE

WHAT IS MOTT HAVEN'S CHARGE AGAINST GOG?

3) ANY OTHER DOCUMENTATION OF CASE AVAILABLE FROM MOTT HAVEN
WOULD BE USEFUL IF EMBASSY TO PURSUE CASE, AS TSAKOS'
STATEMENTS INSUFFICIENT AND CONTRADICTORY.
TASCA

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Message Attributes

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Disposition Authority: CollinP0
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